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November 14, 2012

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Hart Senate Office Building, SH-522
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building, SR-361A
Washington, D.C. 20510

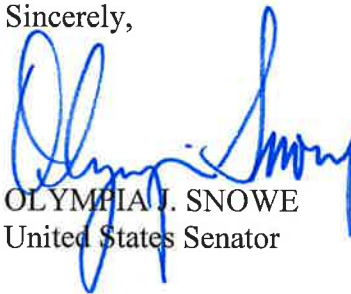
Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell:

As the Senate returns to session this week, I am writing to urge both of you in the strongest possible terms to work collaboratively with me and my colleague, Senator Collins, to have the Senate confirm highly-qualified, non-controversial circuit court nominees who enjoy strong bipartisan support. Specifically, the Senate should promptly confirm President Obama's nomination of Mr. William Kayatta of Maine for a seat on the First Circuit Court of Appeals before this session adjourns Sine Die.

Mr. Kayatta's nomination was submitted to the Senate by the Obama Administration almost ten months ago. The American Bar Association gave his nomination its very highest rating, Unanimously Well Qualified. His nomination was approved with a voice vote by the Senate Judiciary Committee more than eight months ago. In short, there is simply no good reason for his nomination to remain on the Executive Calendar, when the Senate could easily and quickly confirm him to fill a vacancy on the nation's smallest circuit court of appeals.

I stand ready, in conjunction with Senator Collins, to work together with both of you to confirm Mr. Kayatta and other such outstanding judicial nominees.

Sincerely,



OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
United States Senator

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